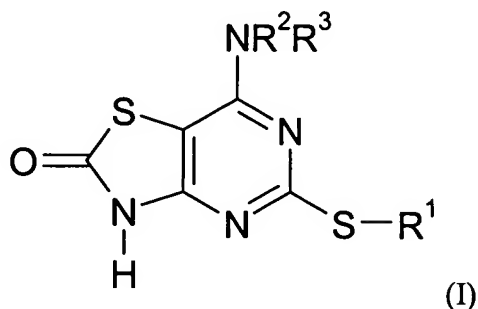


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof:

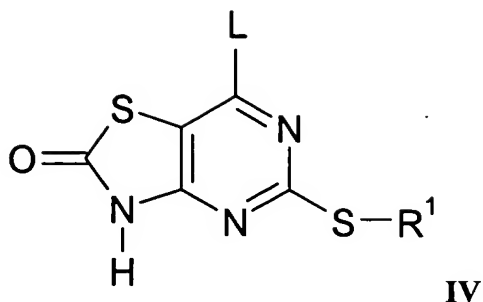


in which

R<sup>1</sup> represents a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> carbocyclic, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl group, each of the groups being optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from halogen atoms, -OR<sup>4</sup>, -NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -CONR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -COOR<sup>7</sup>, -NR<sup>8</sup>COR<sup>9</sup>, -SR<sup>10</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>10</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -NR<sup>8</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>9</sup> or an aryl or heteroaryl group, both of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen atoms, cyano, nitro, -OR<sup>4</sup>, -NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -CONR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -COOR<sup>7</sup>, -NR<sup>8</sup>COR<sup>9</sup>, -SR<sup>10</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>10</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -NR<sup>8</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>9</sup>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl or trifluoromethyl groups;

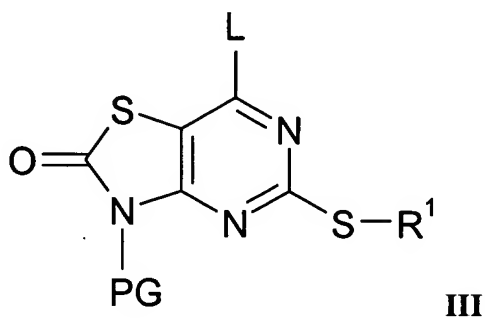
R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> each independently represent a hydrogen atom, or a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> carbocyclic, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl group, the latter four groups may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from:

- (a) halogen atoms,  $-OR^4$ ,  $-NR^5R^6$ ,  $-CONR^5R^6$ ,  $-COOR^7$ ,  $-NR^8COR^9$ ,  $-SR^{10}$ ,  $-SO_2R^{10}$ ,  $-SO_2NR^5R^6$ ,  $-NR^8SO_2R^9$ ;
- (b) a 3-8 membered ring optionally containing one or more atoms selected from O, S,  $NR^8$  and itself optionally substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_3$ -alkyl or halogen; or
- (c) an aryl group or heteroaryl group each of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen atoms, cyano, nitro,  $-OR^4$ ,  $-NR^5R^6$ ,  $-CONR^5R^6$ ,  $-NR^8COR^9$ ,  $-SO_2NR^5R^6$ ,  $-NR^8SO_2R^9$ ,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl and trifluoromethyl groups;  $R^4$  represents hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl or a phenyl group the latter two of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from halogen atoms, phenyl,  $-OR^{11}$  and  $-NR^{12}R^{13}$
- $R^5$  and  $R^6$  independently represent a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl or phenyl group the latter two of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from halogen atoms, phenyl,  $-OR^{14}$  and  $-NR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $-CONR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $-NR^{15}COR^{16}$ ,  $-SONR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $NR^{15}SO_2R^{16}$
- or
- $R^5$  and  $R^6$  together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 4- to 7-membered saturated heterocyclic ring system optionally containing a further heteroatom selected from oxygen and nitrogen atoms, which ring system may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from phenyl,  $-OR^{14}$ ,  $-COOR^{14}$ ,  $-NR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $-CONR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $-NR^{15}COR^{16}$ ,  $-SONR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $NR^{15}SO_2R^{16}$  or  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, itself optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen atoms and  $-NR^{15}R^{16}$  and  $-OR^{17}$  groups;
- $R^{10}$  represents a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl or a phenyl group, the latter two of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from halogen atoms, phenyl,  $-OR^{17}$  and  $-NR^{15}R^{16}$ ; and
- each of  $R^7$ ,  $R^8$ ,  $R^9$ ,  $R^{11}$ ,  $R^{12}$ ,  $R^{13}$ ,  $R^{14}$ ,  $R^{15}$ ,  $R^{16}$ ,  $R^{17}$  independently represents a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, or a phenyl group[.];
- which method comprises contacting



wherein L is a leaving group

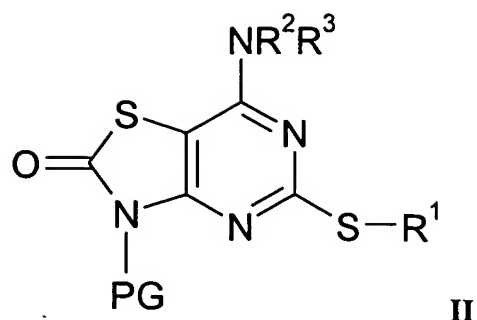
with a thiazole nitrogen protecting group reagent under appropriate reaction conditions to form a compound of the formula



wherein PG is a protecting group,

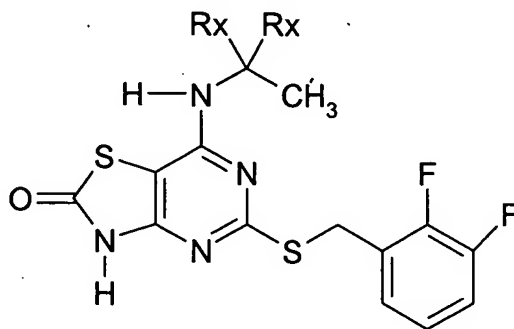
reacting the compound of formula III with an amine of formula  $\text{HNR}^2\text{R}^3$

to form a compound of formula



and deprotection of the compound of formula II to give a compound of the formula I, and simultaneous or sequential conversion to a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

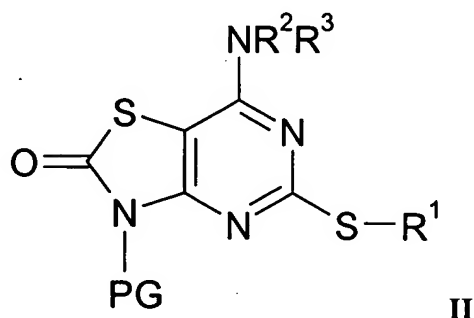
2. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 and wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents an optionally substituted benzyl group.
3. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~ and wherein one of R<sup>2</sup> or R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen and the other is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl substituted by hydroxy and one or more methyl or ethyl groups.
4. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 for the preparation of compounds of the formula Ia



wherein each  $R^X$  is independently selected from hydrogen, a  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by hydroxy, amino,  $-O-C_{1-4}$  alkyl,  $-S-C_{1-4}$  alkyl,  $-N-C_{1-4}$  alkyl,  $-NH-SO_2R$ , or  $-CONR_2$  and provided that both  $R^X$  are not hydrogen or amino.

5. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein each  $R^X$  is independently selected from hydrogen and hydroxymethyl, provided that both  $R^X$  are not hydrogen.

6. (Currently amended) A compound of the formula



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof and wherein ~~PG,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^1$  have the meanings stated in claim 1.~~

$R^1$  represents a  $C_3$ - $C_7$  carbocyclic,  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkenyl or  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkynyl group, each of the groups being optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from halogen atoms,  $-OR^4$ ,  $-NR^5R^6$ ,  $-CONR^5R^6$ ,  $-COOR^7$ ,  $-NR^8COR^9$ ,  $-SR^{10}$ ,  $-SO_2R^{10}$ ,  $-SO_2NR^5R^6$ ,  $-NR^8SO_2R^9$  or an aryl or heteroaryl group, both of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen atoms, cyano, nitro,  $-OR^4$ ,  $-NR^5R^6$ ,  $-CONR^5R^6$ ,  $-COOR^7$ ,  $-NR^8COR^9$ ,  $-SR^{10}$ ,  $-SO_2R^{10}$ ,  $-SO_2NR^5R^6$ ,  $-NR^8SO_2R^9$ ,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl or trifluoromethyl groups;

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  each independently represent a hydrogen atom, or a  $C_3$ - $C_7$  carbocyclic,  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkenyl or  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkynyl group, the latter four groups may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from:

(a) halogen atoms, -OR<sup>4</sup>, -NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -CONR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -COOR<sup>7</sup>, -NR<sup>8</sup>COR<sup>9</sup>, -SR<sup>10</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>10</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -NR<sup>8</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>9</sup>;

(b) a 3-8 membered ring optionally containing one or more atoms selected from O, S, NR<sup>8</sup> and itself optionally substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>-alkyl or halogen; or

(c) an aryl group or heteroaryl group each of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen atoms, cyano, nitro, -OR<sup>4</sup>, -NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -CONR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -NR<sup>8</sup>COR<sup>9</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -NR<sup>8</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>9</sup>; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl and trifluoromethyl groups; R<sup>4</sup> represents hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl or a phenyl group the latter two of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from halogen atoms, phenyl, -OR<sup>11</sup> and -NR<sup>12</sup>R<sup>13</sup>

R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> independently represent a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl or phenyl group the latter two of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from halogen atoms, phenyl, -OR<sup>14</sup> and -NR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>, -CONR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>, -NR<sup>15</sup>COR<sup>16</sup>, -SONR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>, NR<sup>15</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>16</sup>

or

R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 4- to 7-membered saturated heterocyclic ring system optionally containing a further heteroatom selected from oxygen and nitrogen atoms, which ring system may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from phenyl, -OR<sup>14</sup>, -COOR<sup>14</sup>, -NR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>, -CONR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>, -NR<sup>15</sup>COR<sup>16</sup>, -SONR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>, NR<sup>15</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>16</sup> or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, itself optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen atoms and -NR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup> and -OR<sup>17</sup> groups;

R<sup>10</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl or a phenyl group, the latter two of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from halogen atoms, phenyl, -OR<sup>17</sup> and -NR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>;

each of R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, R<sup>9</sup>, R<sup>11</sup>, R<sup>12</sup>, R<sup>13</sup>, R<sup>14</sup>, R<sup>15</sup>, R<sup>16</sup>, R<sup>17</sup> independently represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, or a phenyl group; and

PG is a protecting group.

**III**

or

R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 4- to 7-membered saturated heterocyclic ring system optionally containing a further heteroatom selected from oxygen and nitrogen atoms, which ring system may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from phenyl, -OR<sup>14</sup>, -COOR<sup>14</sup>, -NR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>, -CONR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>, -NR<sup>15</sup>COR<sup>16</sup>, -SONR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>, NR<sup>15</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>16</sup> or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, itself optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen atoms and -NR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup> and -OR<sup>17</sup> groups;

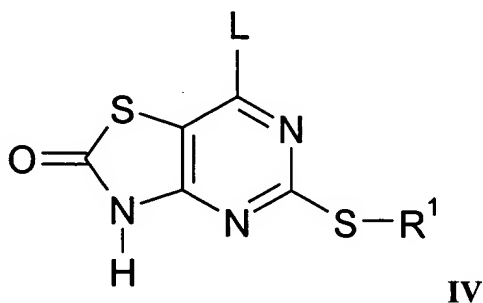
R<sup>10</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl or a phenyl group, the latter two of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from halogen atoms, phenyl, -OR<sup>17</sup> and -NR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>;

each of R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, R<sup>9</sup>, R<sup>11</sup>, R<sup>12</sup>, R<sup>13</sup>, R<sup>14</sup>, R<sup>15</sup>, R<sup>16</sup>, R<sup>17</sup> independently represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, or a phenyl group;

L is a leaving group; and

PG is a protecting group.

8. (Currently amended) A compound of the formula



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof and wherein ~~L is a leaving group other than chlorine~~ and R<sup>1</sup> has the meaning stated in claim 1.

R<sup>1</sup> represents a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> carbocyclic, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl group, each of the groups being optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from halogen atoms, -OR<sup>4</sup>, -NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -CONR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -COOR<sup>7</sup>, -NR<sup>8</sup>COR<sup>9</sup>, -SR<sup>10</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>10</sup>,



-SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -NR<sup>8</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>9</sup> or an aryl or heteroaryl group, both of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen atoms, cyano, nitro, -OR<sup>4</sup>, -NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -CONR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -COOR<sup>7</sup>, -NR<sup>8</sup>COR<sup>9</sup>, -SR<sup>10</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>10</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -NR<sup>8</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>9</sup>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl or trifluoromethyl groups;

R<sup>4</sup> represents hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl or a phenyl group the latter two of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from halogen atoms, phenyl, -OR<sup>11</sup> and -NR<sup>12</sup>R<sup>13</sup>

R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> independently represent a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl or phenyl group the latter two of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from halogen atoms, phenyl, -OR<sup>14</sup> and -NR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>, -CONR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>, -NR<sup>15</sup>COR<sup>16</sup>, -SONR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>, NR<sup>15</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>16</sup>

or

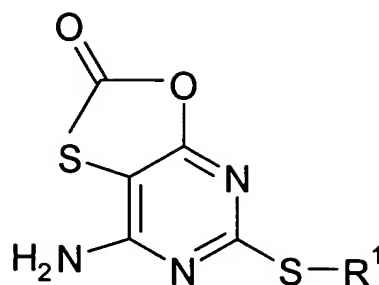
R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 4- to 7-membered saturated heterocyclic ring system optionally containing a further heteroatom selected from oxygen and nitrogen atoms, which ring system may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from phenyl, -OR<sup>14</sup>, -COOR<sup>14</sup>, -NR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>, -CONR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>, -NR<sup>15</sup>COR<sup>16</sup>, -SONR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>, NR<sup>15</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>16</sup> or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, itself optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen atoms and -NR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup> and -OR<sup>17</sup> groups;

R<sup>10</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl or a phenyl group, the latter two of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from halogen atoms, phenyl, -OR<sup>17</sup> and -NR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>;

each of R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, R<sup>9</sup>, R<sup>11</sup>, R<sup>12</sup>, R<sup>13</sup>, R<sup>14</sup>, R<sup>15</sup>, R<sup>16</sup>, R<sup>17</sup> independently represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, or a phenyl group; and

L is a leaving group other than chlorine.

9. (Currently amended) A compound of the formula



V

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof and wherein  $R^1$  has the meaning stated in claim 1.

$R^1$  represents a  $C_3$ - $C_7$  carbocyclic,  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkenyl or  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkynyl group, each of the groups being optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from halogen atoms,  $-OR^4$ ,  $-NR^5R^6$ ,  $-CONR^5R^6$ ,  $-COOR^7$ ,  $-NR^8COR^9$ ,  $-SR^{10}$ ,  $-SO_2R^{10}$ ,  $-SO_2NR^5R^6$ ,  $-NR^8SO_2R^9$  or an aryl or heteroaryl group, both of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen atoms, cyano, nitro,  $-OR^4$ ,  $-NR^5R^6$ ,  $-CONR^5R^6$ ,  $-COOR^7$ ,  $-NR^8COR^9$ ,  $-SR^{10}$ ,  $-SO_2R^{10}$ ,  $-SO_2NR^5R^6$ ,  $-NR^8SO_2R^9$ ,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl or trifluoromethyl groups;

$R^4$  represents hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl or a phenyl group the latter two of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from halogen atoms, phenyl,  $-OR^{11}$  and  $-NR^{12}R^{13}$

$R^5$  and  $R^6$  independently represent a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl or phenyl group the latter two of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from halogen atoms, phenyl,  $-OR^{14}$  and  $-NR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $-CONR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $-NR^{15}COR^{16}$ ,  $-SONR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $NR^{15}SO_2R^{16}$

or

$R^5$  and  $R^6$  together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 4- to 7-membered saturated heterocyclic ring system optionally containing a further heteroatom selected from oxygen and nitrogen atoms, which ring system may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from phenyl,  $-OR^{14}$ ,  $-COOR^{14}$ ,  $-NR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $-CONR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $-NR^{15}COR^{16}$ ,  $-SONR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $NR^{15}SO_2R^{16}$  or  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, itself optionally

substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen atoms and –

NR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup> and -OR<sup>17</sup> groups;

R<sup>10</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl or a phenyl group, the latter two of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from halogen atoms, phenyl, -OR<sup>17</sup> and -NR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>; and

each of R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, R<sup>9</sup>, R<sup>11</sup>, R<sup>12</sup>, R<sup>13</sup>, R<sup>14</sup>, R<sup>15</sup>, R<sup>16</sup>, R<sup>17</sup> independently represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, or a phenyl group.

10. (Original) A compound selected from

5-[[[(2,3-difluorophenyl)methyl]thio]-7-[[[(1R)-2-hydroxy-1-methylethyl]amino]thiazolo[4,5-*d*]pyrimidin-2(3H)-one, potassium salt;

5-[[[(2,3-difluorophenyl)methyl]thio]-7-[[[2-hydroxy-1-(hydroxymethyl)-1-methylethyl]amino]thiazolo[4,5-*d*]pyrimidin-2(3H)-one, sodium salt; and

5-[[[(2,3-difluorophenyl)methyl]thio]-7-[[[2-hydroxy-1-(hydroxymethyl)-1-methylethyl]amino]thiazolo[4,5-*d*]pyrimidin-2(3H)-one, potassium salt.